

A native of Moyock, NC, Senior Chief Gross was inducted in the Navy in 1972. After graduating from recruit training at Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, IL, he served in various managerial billets including Navy exchanges and bachelor enlisted quarters. In addition, he served as a shore patrol officer and as a recruiter. During his most recent shore duty, he served as a logistics management assessment team member at the NAVSURLANT Readiness Support Group.

Senior Chief Gross accumulated 16 years of sea duty aboard various ships including the U.S.S. *Vulcan* (AR-5), U.S.S. *Conolly* (DD-979), U.S.S. *America* (CV-66), U.S.S. *Coontz* (DDG-40), U.S.S. *Hayler* (DD-997). He was a plank owner aboard U.S.S. *Supply* (AOE-6), the Navy's newest class of fast combat support ships, during his last tour afloat.

His impact on crew morale and readiness has been immeasurable. In addition to providing the finest ship's store, laundry, and barber services to crew members, he maintained tight financial accountability. Senior Chief Gross was also instrumental in providing logistics support to the fleet during his tour as a logistics management team member.

Producing one success story after another, Senior Chief Gross was awarded three Navy Commendation Medals, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Battle "E," five Good Conduct Medals, two Navy Expeditionary Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, Southwest Asia Service Medal with Bronze Star, four Sea Service Deployment Ribbons and Kuwait Liberation Medal. In addition, he attained Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualification.

A man of Ship's Serviceman Senior Chief Gross' talent and integrity is rare indeed. While his honorable service will be genuinely missed, it gives me great pleasure to recognize him before my colleagues and to wish him "Fair Winds and Following Seas," as he concludes a long and distinguished career in the U.S. naval service.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HONORABLE MATTHEW E. WELSH,  
FORMER GOVERNOR OF INDIANA

**HON. ANDREW JACOBS, JR.**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 22, 1995*

Mr. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, former Governor, Matthew E. Welsh, was nothing less than a noble legend in Indiana and to a considerable extent our entire nation.

He was a giant among Hoosiers. We lost him on May 28, 1995.

He was a man of extraordinary scholarship and civility, quite literally a scholar and a gentleman.

The following tributes were editorials in both the Indianapolis Star and the Indianapolis News:

[From the Indianapolis Star, May 31, 1995]

MATTHEW E. WELSH

As Indiana's 41st governor from 1961 to 1965, Matthew E. Welsh was one of the state's busiest and most productive public servants.

In public life for half a century, as an attorney and Democratic elected official, he was respected by members of both parties.

In his first year as governor, he gave 260 speeches, traveled 27,000 miles by car and

plane, and visited 13 states and 42 Indiana counties.

Major accomplishments of his administration were creation of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, which investigates complaints of discrimination; formation of the Department of Administration; and improving the general quality of state government by extending the merit system.

As Gov. Evan Bayh said, he led the state at a time of great growth and presided over the building of the state's interstate highway system, construction of flood-control reservoirs, improvement in the mental health system and the first land acquisition plan for public recreation since the 1920s.

Welsh took pride in biting the bullet in proposing Indiana's first sales tax. But much of the public expressed pain and resentment when the 2 percent bite was enacted in 1963.

Forming Indiana Citizens Against Legalized Gambling, working to improve mental health treatment facilities, serving on a task force on property tax control and the Mayor's Intergovernmental Relations Task Force, serving on the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee and heading its task force on poor relief were but a few of his many contributions to city, state and national life.

Always a modest and able leader, a perfect gentleman, gracious, with a sparkling sense of humor, Matt Welsh won many honors, made many friends and had many admirers during a productive public life. His death at 82 takes an honorable, respected and charming public servant from the Indiana scene.

[From the Indianapolis News, May 30, 1995]

MATTHEW E. WELSH

Matthew E. Welsh, Indiana's 41st governor and one of the most decent and able men ever to serve in Indiana politics, passed away over the weekend.

Welsh, a lawyer and former state legislator, first attempted to capture the governor's seat in 1956, losing the Democratic nomination to Ralph Tucker. Many considered that loss a blessing in disguise for Welsh, believing that the election of Republican Harold Handley was inevitable.

Four years later, Welsh got his party's nomination and, with some help from a strong presidential run by John Kennedy, won with a 23,177-vote victory over former Lt. Gov. Crawford Parker.

A moderate Democrat, Welsh was credited with boosting merit employment in state government, creating the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, pushing school consolidation and presiding over construction of the interstate highway commission. He has also been credited with, or blamed for, imposing the state sales tax.

Strongly believing in the necessity for overhauling the state's revenue system, including the imposition of the sales tax, Welsh had to battle a Republican-controlled Indiana General Assembly to get the job done.

The Indiana Constitution prevented him from seeking another consecutive term. In 1972, however, he ran for governor again.

Scars from that sales tax battle, coupled with having weak presidential coattails from Democratic presidential nominee George McGovern and a strong Republican opponent, Otis Bowen, led to Welsh's defeat the second time he sought the governor's office. With Welsh and Bowen running for the office, however, it was a race Hoosier voters could not lose.

"There was no one in government or politics I respected more," said Bowen of his former opponent. "Matt Welsh was a most honorable and dedicated public servant. Indiana is better off for his having been governor."

Losing the 1972 election did not end Welsh's public service or his contributions to Indiana.

He served on numerous boards, commissions and agencies for both the city of Indianapolis and the state. Welsh was particularly instrumental in working for the improvement of mental health facilities and treatment in Indiana. He also joined other political, educational, religious and civic leaders in lobbying against legalized gambling in the state.

Furthermore, he maintained an active involvement in the Democratic Party and served as an advisor to many Hoosier politicians, including former Indiana Sen. Birch Bayh.

"Governor Welsh was a great man," said Gov. Evan Bayh, who also received considerable help and advice from Welsh. "He was greatly loved by all Democrats and admired and respected by Democrats and Republicans alike."

He will be sorely missed by Hoosiers of all political persuasions who benefited from his leadership.

TRIBUTE TO REPUBLIC, MI, IN  
HONOR OF ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 22, 1995*

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere congratulations to the Village of Republic in Michigan's Upper Peninsula which is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year.

The pioneers who settled in northern Michigan, and especially in the area later known as Republic, survived boom times and bad times with traditional American fortitude.

From the first recorded purchase of land in the area by William Pratt on March 13, 1851, the town, originally known as Iron City, flourished.

From the beginning, iron mining was an important industry to Republic. In 1856, an iron vein was discovered by explorer Silas Whetstone Smith, for whom the bay and mountain or iron were named. The first and most successful of the iron companies was formed in 1870. On November 3, 1871, Peter Pascal, an agent of the Republic Iron Mining Co., directed clearance of lands for the company. The first permanent settlers arrived in 1872, and mining operations began by 1873. Mining and lumbering industries attracted railroads, and the town flourished.

Like many other towns in Michigan, Republic had a prosperous lumbering industry, especially from the 1870's to the early 1900's. Lumbering was an important source of employment, and it continues to be a thriving industry.

By 1928, the economy slowed down, and Republic residents, along with the rest of the country, found themselves in the midst of the Great Depression. With the advent of the New Deal and the creation of the Works Progress Administration, many improvements were made to the town and surrounding area.

Although Republic was for many years a mining community, the closing of the mine in 1980 presented an enormous challenge to local residents. Fires in the area also took a toll, but the village rebuilt. Today, Republic is a viable, dynamic, and friendly community.